

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 PRS-01

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R 161756Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9884

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 04100

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, UK, FR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR - CONCORDE

1. UK DEPT. OF TRADE INFORMED EMBASSY THAT BRITISH AIRWAYS AND AIR FRANCE WILL ANNOUNCE MARCH 17 THAT THEY PLAN TO INAUGURATE CONCORDE SERVICES TO WASHINGTON/DULLES MAY 23. BOTH CARRIERS ALSO PLAN TO REQUEST DECLARATORY JUDGMENT FROM U.S. COURTS THAT IN VIEW OF DECISION OF SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION COLEMAN TO ALLOW CONCORDE FLIGHTS TO NEW YORK AND US/UK, US/FR BILATERAL AVIATION AGREEMENTS, NY/NJ PORT AUTHORITY EXCEEDED ITS AUTHORITY IN IMPOSING SIX MONTH BAN ON FLIGHTS TO KENNEDY AIRPORT.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, UK SECRETARY OF TRADE, PETER SHORE SAID IN REPLY TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS MARCH 15 BY ALL-PARTY GROUP OF MPS FORMED TO SUPPORT CONCORDE PROGRAM THAT "... WE HAVE VERY CONSIDERABLE CONFIDENCE IN THE PROCESSES OF AMERICAN JUSTICE AND IN PARTICULAR IN THE CONSEQUENCE OF SECRETARY COLEMAN'S VERY POWERFUL AND AUTHORITATIVE OPINION... I BELIEVE WE SHALL GET CONCORDE SUCCESSFULLY IN FLIGHT BOTH TO NEW YORK AND DULLES."

3. A SIMILARLY OBJECTIVE VIEW OF THE HANDLING OF THE
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CONCORDE QUESTION IN THE UNITED STATES WAS TAKEN BY

BRITISH AIRWAYS CONCORDE DIRECTOR, GORDON DAVIDSON.
"FLIQT" MAGAZINE QUOTES HIM AS TELLING A LONDON MEETING
OF THE AIRLINE PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICERS LAST WEEK THAT
NEW YORK'S OBJECTORS TO CONCORDE ARE NOT ANTI-FRENCH OR
ANTI-BRITISH OR EVEN ANTI-CONCORDE; "THEY ARE JUST PEOPLE
WHO DON'T LIKE AIRCRAFT NOISE... WHAT WE ARE SEEING IS
DEMOCRACY IN ITS MOST ADVANCED STATE."

ARMSTRONG

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NNN

Message Attributes

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